

# CASA of Cochise County

## News & Views



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## Articles

[www.casaofarizona.com](http://www.casaofarizona.com)

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Abby Dodge and family

Happy November! November is National Adoption Month. Cochise County will be celebrating by hosting its 3rd annual National Adoption Day celebration on Friday, November 17. The ceremony will take place at Cochise College in Sierra Vista at 10:00 AM in the Community Room of the Student Union Building (Building 1000). Supreme Court Justice John R. Lopez, IV will be the Keynote Speaker for the event. I encourage you all to attend this event, if you're able. Adoptions are joyous occasions in general, but Cochise County's National Adoption Day events are always special. Please join us to celebrate with those families who are completing adoptions at this ceremony, families who have adopted children in the past, and families who are anxiously awaiting future adoptions. I hope to see many of you there!

## *Coordinator's Comments*

November is also a month for us to honor those who have served in our Armed Forces. I know that many of you have selflessly served our country at some point in your lives, and now you continue to serve our dependent children through your work as CASAs. We truly appreciate your service, both to our country and to our children. Thank you all!

My son turns 5 this month, which is yet another reason that November is special to me. As he continues to grow and mature, he is asking more and more of the difficult life questions that I have a hard time answering. Some of his most recent questions have revolved around birth and death, two topics I was hoping to avoid for at least a few more years. One question comes up more often than the others – he frequently likes to ask me what my husband and I do during the day while he's at "school." I love bragging about all of you to my son! I use it as a teaching moment to remind him that not everyone has it as good as he does, and then I take the opportunity to describe how hard each of you work. I also explain to him that you do it because you care so much about the children, and that we can't even pay you for your hard work. Ethan is one of your biggest fans, even though he has never met many of you. I wish we lived in a world where we didn't need advocates to speak up for children who have been abused or neglected, but since that is not possible, I couldn't ask for a better group of advocates to represent CASA of Cochise County and our dependent children. Thank you all for all your hard work!

## CASA Quilts

By **Ned Letto**, Cochise County CASA Volunteer

The Hummingbird Stitchers Quilt Guild of Sierra Vista are celebrating their 10th Anniversary with a Celebrate and Serve Project by making quilts for children in Foster Care.

The Quilters have made over 180 quilts that will be given to the CASA Council for distribution to children in foster care. The quilts will be presented to the CASA Council at ceremonies on November 1 at 9:00 a.m. and on November 6 at 6:00 p.m. These presentations will be held at the Rothery Education Center, 3305 E Fry Blvd., in Sierra Vista. CASA Advocates are invited to come.

Some quilts have already been presented to children at their adoptions.

Deb Scott, president of the Hummingbird Stitchers and a CASA, gave one of the quilts to Ned Letto to present to a former foster child who is now in her second year at the University of Arizona. On September 29, Ned presented the quilt to Eden Nehs. Eden was both surprised and thankful. There are going to be a lot of warm children this winter thanks to the efforts of these quilters.





## The Mini Time Machine Museum of Miniatures in Tucson

By **Mary C. Blanchard**, Cochise County CASA Volunteer

,Visiting this museum was one of the most worthwhile outings I have ever done with a CASA kid. My girl and I spent 2 hours there, and I literally had to drag her out of there when we had to go home.

The three main themes are:

1. The History Gallery shows a series of homes from the 18th, 19th, and 20th centuries.
2. Enchanted Realm brings to life a world inhabited by dragons, fairies, mice, frogs, and more.
3. Exploring the World depicts life around the world.

My girl loved the exhibits of houses from different eras. Every detail is perfect. It was fun to look at what we could see in each house and speculate about the lives of people who lived there.

There are two hands-on activities. The first is a maze which my 9-year-old girl could solve and I could not. The second involves 5 special fairies hidden amongst the displays. The trick is to find these fairies, not just any fairy. My girl found all 5.

We got down on our knees to see the displays that were close to the floor. For the eye level displays, we pressed our noses against the glass to look more closely at the fine details. I bumped my nose three times. No telling how often my girl bumped hers.

This is a must-do outing for all elementary school girls and tweens. And some teens! The majority of the visitors were adults without children. It is simply awesome.



**Contact Us** [520 881 0606](tel:5208810606) 4455 E. Camp Lowell Drive Tucson, AZ 85712

### Hours

Tuesday-Saturday: 9am To 4pm  
Sunday: 12pm To 4pm  
Closed Mondays and Major Holidays

### Admission

- General: \$9.
- Senior (65 or older)/Military : \$8
- Youth (age 4-17): \$6
- Children 3 and under: Free

## Calling all CASAs!

By **Deb Scott**, Cochise County CASA Volunteer

Once you get past Trick or Treating, it will be time for the most precious gift-giving.

Every CASA child will be given their very own quilt before the holidays.

The Hummingbird Stitchers Quilt Guild will be presenting the Cochise County CASA Council with almost 200 quilts to be given to children in foster care. About 20 of the quilts have already been distributed due to placement disruptions, adoptions (*yeah!*), and new entries into the foster care system.

The presentations will be made to CCCC Chair Mark Dannels and Vice Chair Ned Letto at the two HSQG meetings in November.

Wednesday 1 November at 9am

Monday 6 November at 6pm

The meetings are held at the Rothery Educational Service Center (the old Apache Middle School) on Fry Blvd next to Veterans Memorial Park. The HSQG meets in the portable buildings on the far-right side of the campus...the buildings with the wooden Barn Quilts on the walls!

CASAs are invited to attend these presentations on behalf of your foster kids. For privacy reasons, there can be no photos of the recipients of these quilts, but the stories of the joy they are bringing are already being shared.

CASAs can select quilts for their kids at either of these two meetings, or by contacting Deb Scott: [dyscott6@gmail.com](mailto:dyscott6@gmail.com) or Mary Kay Holcomb: [holcombamk@live.com](mailto:holcombamk@live.com).

After all CASA kids have received quilts, the foster licensing agencies will distribute quilts to those without a CASA.



## An Unstructured Visit

*By Mary C. Blanchard, Cochise County CASA Volunteer*

Yesterday, I went for a short visit with my tween. There aren't a whole lot of things to do in Benson, and my young lady decided several months ago that she is now too old for McDonald's Happy Meals, so we are down to Walmart, the Dollar Store, and the ice cream shop.

Driving up to Benson in the car, I pondered how to make this a memorable visit. I decided since she loves to teach me how to do crafts and to program my radio, she might enjoy telling me how tweens make new friends. I told her about my idea as we were driving to the ice cream shop. She was willing but not overly enthusiastic. I asked her to think about making new friends on the short drive over.

To make the ice cream more fun, I let her order an extra topping. She was thrilled. She immediately removed the Oreo toppings and put them in one of four napkins (I always get plenty of napkins), and she always saves her favorite food for last. I let her eat for a few moments and then I began asking my questions.

### **Topic 1. When you move, how do you make new friends?**

She told me when she moved to this placement, she already knew one girl, and they immediately reconnected and were best friends again.

She told me when she meets someone new, she shares good and bad experiences. Since she has had 9 placements, she has lots to share. She says this nearly always works. If a friendship is slower to develop, she tries to learn about the girl's personality and learn how to make a connection. She also says she looks for opportunities to show the girl how to do something (she does this with me all the time). She

told me she tried to become friends with one girl and after four days, she succeeded. The girl was interested in cheerleading and could not do a cartwheel. My girl taught her how to do a cartwheel, and they have been friends ever since.

When I first met her, my girl was awkward but eager when she tried to make friends. She says she has learned that when she talks to someone new, if the person doesn't respond, she says, "OK, that's cool," and waits a while and then tries again. She says it is great having friends and being able to "hang out." None of the girls in her group have cell phones, which I think is a great blessing. They have to actually have visual, vocal, and emotional contact with another person instead of relating to a phone and a communicating using short-hand and one word responses.

### **Topic 2. How do you get to be friends with someone you don't like and who doesn't like you?**

We had been having a heavy-duty conversation for quite a while, so I was thrilled when she was willing to explore this topic. Her first response was, "I don't know." She ate her Oreo topping while she thought about this. Finally, I mentioned that something had happened, and that a girl she didn't get along with had finally become a friend. I asked her how it happened. She thought about this and finally remembered that the other girl had lent her a necklace and a pair of earrings. We agreed this was very nice thing to do. She then made the connection that it was costume day at school, and another girl had lent her a Minnie Mouse Shirt. This prompted the girl she didn't get along with to lend the jewelry. The outfit and accessories made my girl feel good all day at school. After school, I took her to get cards for both girls. She was a bit reluctant to do this, but I told her my grandmother

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## An Unstructured Visit (Continued)

had always insisted that it is absolutely necessary to give Thank You cards. Neither girl had ever gotten a Thank You card before, but somehow it all worked out and made good feelings all around, and now all three girls are good friends.

A word of caution. When the girls are teenagers and dislike and even hate each other, the dynamics are quite different and their interaction is sometimes very unpleasant and very serious. Don't hesitate to ask for help from the professionals.

This was all heavy and quite exhausting, so we finished up the visit by going to Safeway and buying the foster mother flowers. I have learned over the years that a budget and list are necessary when money is being spent. Flowers was the only item on the list, and I gave her a budget as soon as I looked at the prices of the flowers. Then when she begged for the \$30 vase of roses, and longed for all the other pricy floral offerings, it wasn't long before she was able to examine every single petal of every bouquet in her price range. She happily settled on "the perfect bouquet," and when we were going to get in line to pay, she was able to put back the DVD of Super girl and the bag of M&Ms. She played the radio on the short drive home. As we were approaching the house, my girl's favorite song came on. I told her to crank it up. She hesitated, I insisted, and we arrived in a blast of sound which everyone noticed and commented on. I acted as if the racket was perfectly normal. The foster mother loved the flowers, and my girl happily arranged the flowers in the best vase--the one that had previously displayed a large bunch of artificial flowers.

Wow! It actually was a pretty cool visit.

## The Knights of Columbus Help Aged-Out Youth

*By Ned Letto, Cochise County CASA Volunteer*

Twice this year, the Knights of Columbus from Our Lady of the Mountains church have stepped up to help aged-out youths. In each case, they have provided beds and other furniture to help the youths get started in an apartment.

### Kudos to the Knights of Columbus!



## The Next Generation

By **Mary C. Blanchard**, Cochise County CASA Volunteer

My second CASA kid is now in her early 30s. I have been part of her life since she was a junior in high school. When I met her, she was about to enter the independent living program. She was working two shifts at Cafe O-Le and going to school full-time. She saved her money and bought a nice car, furnished her apartment, and began to explore the world around her. She dated a number of eligible young men, got her citizenship papers, and was elected to student government at Cochise College. I was a witness at her wedding, I watched the sonogram of her daughter endlessly for 9 months, and I was her birth coach when her daughter was born. In short, our lives are intertwined, and she is as close to me as any member of my family.

As the daughter Brooke grew up, I shared all her adventures. She has even sent me videos, and I can testify that she is a gifted violin player. I watched her favorite movie ***Coraline*** and she recently sent me a short story that she adapted from a short story that she read in English. "The Monkey's Paw" was written in 1902 by W.W Jacobs. It is about a father and son and their strange adventure with a monkey's paw. Her interpretation is completely original.

The following is an excerpt from her story.

The Monkey's Paw is a paw that has been cut off of the fastest monkey in the world. In 1898, a wicked old lady cast a spell on the paw and whoever found the paw is granted three wishes. Pass it on to the next but be warned, for your wishes will come in the strangest ways. Beware of the Monkey's Paw for if you were to use it, your fate would be changed.

I have had over 40 CASA kids in the 17 years I have been a CASA. I do hear from some of them from time to time, but this woman is the only CASA kid who is family.

Hello Grandma Mary!!! Thank you so much for the article. My mom and I loved it soo much! Here is the photo that you can use for the article, I'm sorry that I replied to you late.



Love Brooke





## Two Small Tidbits

By **Mary C. Blanchard**, Cochise County CASA Volunteer

1. One of my wonderful foster mothers has this motto displayed in her living room:

**You Can't Scare  
Me...  
I Have  
Teenagers!**

2. I was listening to popular music with one of my girls. I couldn't understand the lyrics, so I asked her what they meant. She told me the song was about a person who has black thoughts. She explained what this meant to her.

She told me...

**You make me have  
White Thoughts.**

I was thrilled to hear this. It was such a positive tribute. And that it was inspired by a song lyric is doubly golden. It made my day.

# CASA of the Month!

## Juanita Adamson

## October 2017

I am pleased to announce that the CASA of the Month for October 2017 is Juanita Adamson.

Juanita accepted her first case in December 2011, so she's been with us for almost 6 years! Shortly after I started with the program, I asked Juanita to take a case with two children. Eventually the case grew to four children, 3 of which have been adopted. Juanita was very involved with ensuring that these three were adopted into safe, loving homes. The one child that remains open in the case is currently placed near Phoenix, making it difficult for Juanita to see the child on a regular basis. However, this has not prevented Juanita from continuing to fight to ensure that this child has a chance at finding permanency.

Juanita includes me on her emails whenever issues arise on the case, and her ability to explain the situation and advocate for that child always impress me. I have no doubt that Juanita is not going to quit until this child has everything that he needs.

Juanita prefers working with the little ones, which is a perfect match for her gentle spirit. She's also very patient with me, which I greatly appreciate!



If you've attended one of our recognition events, you've probably met Juanita. If you haven't, please try to find a way to do so. She has a lot of knowledge and experience that I know everyone could benefit from.

Thanks Juanita, for all that you do!



## Anniversaries

**Melissa Avant**

11/10/2015 - 2 years

**Chris Charles-Hall**

11/14/2014 - 3 years

**Juanita Adamson**

11/29/2011 - 6 years



## Welcome to new CASA Volunteers

Bonnie Staggs

Ludwig Kuttner

April Gerholt-Osorio

Amber Aarup



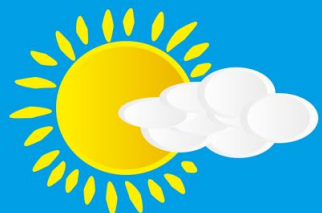


From Abby:

I was at a meeting in Phoenix and while I was speaking with the Coordinator for CASA of Santa Cruz County, a DCS Specialist from Santa Cruz County joined the conversation to tell me that she's heard such great things about the CASAs in Cochise County.

Way to go! Your reputation has crossed  
county lines!

## CASA Support Groups



### Morning Support Group

Second Thursday of the Month  
10:00am-12:00 noon

Fall Meeting Place: November 9, 2017

Home of Abby Dodge  
1254 Preston St.  
Sierra Vista, AZ

### Evening Support Group

Last Tuesday of the Month  
7:00-9:00pm

Home of LuRue Troyer  
2300 Iris Drive  
Sierra Vista, AZ 85635

## CCCC, Inc

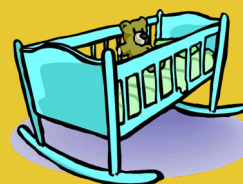
### Cochise County Council for CASA, Inc

is a nonprofit organization that raises funds to the unmet needs of abused neglected and abandoned children in the CASA of Cochise County Program. The primary focus is to ensure the educational progress of CASA children through tutoring and scholarships. In addition the council provides clothing, toys and personal items.

If your CASA child/youth has an unmet need, consider the Cochise County Council for CASA to help!!

Call your CASA Coordinator at 432-7521 OR

Send an email to [Adodge@courts.az.gov](mailto:Adodge@courts.az.gov)



# Trauma, Opiates and Child Welfare: How Family-Serving Agencies Can Do Better

*Suggested by Allison Hurtado, CASA Marketing & Community Outreach Specialist, AZ Supreme Court*

[chronicleofsocialchange.org/opinion/trauma-opiates-and-child-welfare-how-child-welfare-agencies-can-do-better/28175](http://chronicleofsocialchange.org/opinion/trauma-opiates-and-child-welfare-how-child-welfare-agencies-can-do-better/28175) 9/18/2017

**By all outward appearances**, I grew up in a normal American family. My parents had respectable jobs in construction and nursing, a four-bedroom home, family dog and a playhouse my father built from the ground up. My sister and I participated in cheerleading and orchestra, and earned straight As in school.

But my parents struggled with untreated mental health issues — my mother likely had PTSD, while my father struggled with depression. After both my paternal grandparents died (in 1999 and 2003), my parents' attempts to self-medicate with heroin started to overrule their lives.

That's a story that millions of families in the U.S. can relate to. Last month, President Donald Trump declared the opioid epidemic a national emergency. Overdoses kill 142 Americans a day, according to a recent [report](#).

But another result of the current opioid epidemic is that the number of children entering foster care due to parental substance abuse has [risen sharply in recent years](#). Therefore, it is more crucial than ever that child welfare systems focus on keeping families together to prevent unnecessary entry into foster care.

My story in foster care began one winter morning during a placement

hearing for my sister's juvenile justice involvement. I was in the courtroom as my sister accused my parents of being drug addicts. The judge's solution was to order random drug screenings, and if my parents tested positive for substances or failed to show for the screenings, I would be removed from their care.

On the day of their first scheduled drug test, my parents were arrested for falsifying vehicle inspection stickers on our old pick-up truck. As a result, my parents failed to appear for the drug test. Unaware my parents had been arrested, my caseworker placed me in a group home, followed by a kinship placement, another group home and then a second final kinship placement — where I stayed until college before aging out at age 21.

After I was taken, my parents' ability to function severely deteriorated. They lost their jobs and their driver's licenses. They weren't allowed to be in a room with me unsupervised, despite my age (I was already 14 years old at that point) and although they had never laid a hand on me.

The system mandated my parents attend a drug and alcohol treatment program but didn't account for their co-morbid mental health needs or their lack of transportation. (Our home wasn't easily accessible via a bus line, hence the need to falsify our registration stickers.)

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## Trauma, Opiates and Child Welfare: How Family-Serving Agencies Can Co Better (Continued)

When my mom or dad did attend inpatient rehab, the caseworkers didn't indicate that as progress. As a result, our visits didn't increase, and I wasn't reunified. At the time, I remember my mom said, "They're railroading me at every court hearing; why don't the good things I did before count for anything?" It wasn't until much later that I understood what she meant.

There's a common misconception that because parents don't jump through every hoop in the drug rehab process, they don't love their kids, or that they're not trying. That's far from true. Sometimes the obstacles are stacked too high, and when mental health needs aren't being addressed, those obstacles become even harder to overcome.

My mom and dad were great parents, and I miss them dearly. They raised me properly for 14 years and instilled within me the values of education, compassion and love. They are the reason I knew I wanted to attend college from a young age. They were part of the reason why I graduated third in my high school class, completed my bachelor's degree with cum laude honors and earned my master's degree in social work with a 3.9 cumulative GPA.

Yes, my parents were drug addicts. But they also provided a solid and healthy foundation for me, from which I have grown to achieve great things.

As I reflect back now as an adult and a therapist, I realize that the child welfare system only saw my family as the sum of our worst, most broken parts. They didn't see the love and commitment. They didn't

consider my parents' years of stability or the stressors that helped lead to drug use when devising a course of action. They didn't acknowledge that I was doing well when I lived with my birth parents. After entering care, I got the first C grade of my life and cried all the time.

The system only acknowledged the allegations of drug abuse, and removing me was their first solution. There were no mental health or drug and alcohol assessments prior to my first day in foster care.

Current child welfare frameworks do not assess for these needs prior to removal. Further, child welfare agencies are currently unable to provide intensive interventions prior to a child being formally removed from the birth parents' care.

The child welfare system absolutely must catch up with current knowledge about mental health and substance abuse in order to actually help families and children in crisis. For example, as the [adverse childhood experiences study](#) and other [research has shown](#), there's a clear link between mental health disorders and drug and alcohol abuse as a result of childhood trauma.

One way child welfare systems can change is to adapt their child and family assessments to gauge for these mental health and substance abuse needs. Moreover, child welfare systems must have access to the necessary funding to be able to provide these services.

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## Trauma, Opiates and Child Welfare: How Family-Serving Agencies Can Co Better (Continued)

By the time child welfare becomes involved with parents dealing with substance abuse, they may have lost their jobs or sources of income. Consequently, they are unable to access mental health or substance abuse treatment without medical assistance or funding from the child welfare agency.

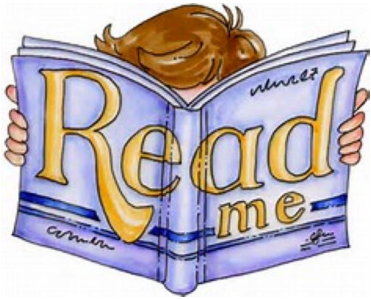
Ensuring funding and therefore access to these services not only saves money, but it will save lives. While I was still in care, my mom died from drug-related issues. Six years later, my father also died of his addiction.

With the correct substance abuse and mental health treatment, maybe my parents would be alive today. With better support for them, maybe I wouldn't have spent 2,555 days in foster care. The research is out there to do better, and now is the time for the child welfare system to change.

**Nico'Lee Rohac** is an alumni of the foster care system in Pennsylvania, and is also an advocate for federal foster care reform. She holds a master's degree in social work and works as a licensed trauma therapist with children and families.

November 2017						
SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
			1	2 All Soul's Day	3 Sandwich Day	4 Book Lovers Day
5	6 Saxophone Day	7	8 Cook Something Bold Day	9	10  County Offices Closed	11
12 Jennifer W. 	13	14 Darla: Report due for T case.  Cheryl: Report due for SM.  Young Readers Day	15	16 Have a Party with Your Bear Day	17 Cochise County Adoption Celebration	18 National Adoption Day
19	20	21 Lin W. 	22 Mary: Report due for JG.	23  County Offices Closed	24  County Offices Closed	25 National Parfait Day
26 Shopping Reminder Day	27 Susan: Report due for JR.  Deb: Report due for CS.	28 French Toast Day	29	30 Stay at Home Because You Are Well Day	→ 11/21/17 Kathy: Report due for KB. Lin: Report due for L/M case. Wendeborn's: Report due for TR.	





# Getting Started Resource Links

## State of Arizona CASA

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### Mental Health Resources

#### National Alliance on Mental Illness

[www.nami.org](http://www.nami.org)

This organization provides resources to improve the lives of people with mental illnesses and their families. Legal issues, medical information, and many other fact sheets are included in the website.

#### Mental Health America of Arizona (MHA AZ)

[www.mhaarizona.org](http://www.mhaarizona.org)

This is a non-profit association providing leadership to address the full range of mental health and wellness issues in Arizona. MHA AZ promotes good mental health and works on behalf of all people living with mental illness by advocating, educating and shaping public policy.

#### Internet Mental Health

[www.mentalhealth.com](http://www.mentalhealth.com)

This site contains links for common disorders,

organizations, search engines, and medical sites.

#### Children & Adults with Attention-Deficit/Hyperactivity Disorder (CHADD)

[www.chadd.org](http://www.chadd.org)

CHADD works to improve the lives of people with attention-deficit/hyperactivity disorder through education, advocacy, and support. Their site offers great information on ADHD and disability issues in the legislature.

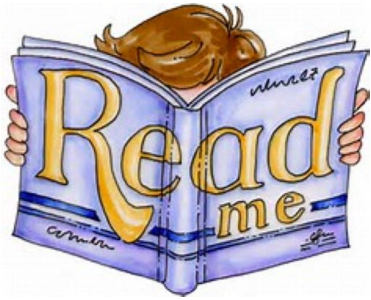
### Child Development Resources

#### American Academy of Child & Adolescent Psychiatry

[www.aacap.org](http://www.aacap.org)

The American Academy of Child and Adolescent Psychiatry works to assist parents and families in understanding developmental, behavioral, emotional, and mental disorders affecting children and adolescents. The website includes journal information, facts, resources, and information on legislation.

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# Getting Started Resource Links

## State of Arizona CASA (Continued)

**F** **American Academy of Pediatrics (AAP)**  
**R** [www.aap.org](http://www.aap.org)

AAP offers materials for professionals working in the field of child abuse, including policy statements, and resources for prevention, recognition, and treatment.

**O** **Association for Treatment and Training in the**  
**M** **Attachment of Children (ATTACH)**  
[www.attach.org](http://www.attach.org)

ATTACH is an international coalition of professionals and families dedicated to creating public awareness and education regarding attachment and the critical role it plays in human development. The organization provides a quarterly newsletter, hosts an annual conference, and compiles a membership directory.

**Attachment Disorder.net**  
[www.attachment-disorder.net](http://www.attachment-disorder.net)

Written by an adoptive parent of a child diagnosed with attachment disorder, this site provides information, resources, and support for parents and others trying to help children with attachment problems.

**The Barr-Harris Children's Grief Center**  
[www.barrharris.org](http://www.barrharris.org)

The center offers help for children facing the pain of death, divorce, separation, or abandonment, and provides a list of books/links for school professionals, parents, and advocates who deal with children's grief.

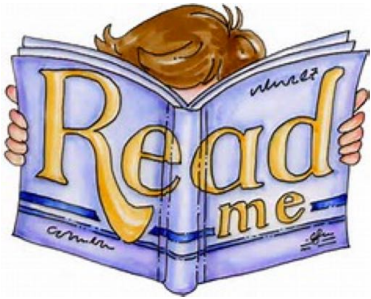
**Child Development Institute**  
[www.cdipage.com](http://www.cdipage.com)

This site, aimed at parents, provides information on child development, child psychology, parenting, learning, health, safety, and childhood disorders such as attention deficit disorder, dyslexia, and autism.

**MedTerms Medical Dictionary**  
[www.medterms.com](http://www.medterms.com)

This resource allows you to search for information on any medical term through a wide search and can also link you to a multilingual dictionary and a drug database.

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# Getting Started Resource Links

## State of Arizona CASA (Continued)

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### **The National Center for Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder**

[www.ncptsd.org](http://www.ncptsd.org)

This program of the US Department of Veterans Affairs offers a broad range of activities, including research, training, and public information. The site includes an index of worldwide literature on PTSD.

### **National Organization on Fetal Alcohol Syndrome (NOFAS)**

[www.nofas.org](http://www.nofas.org)

NOFAS is committed to raising public awareness of fetal alcohol syndrome and to developing and implementing innovative ideas in prevention, intervention, education, and advocacy in communities nationwide. NOFAS also operates a national clearinghouse for regional, state, and local fetal alcohol syndrome organizations.

### **Trauma Information Pages**

[www.trauma-pages.com](http://www.trauma-pages.com)

Dr. David Baldwin's Trauma Pages focus primarily on

emotional trauma and traumatic stress, including post-traumatic stress disorder, whether following individual traumatic experience(s) or a large-scale disaster. The site includes information on trauma resources, a bookstore, articles, and links.

### **Zero to Three**

[www.zerotothree.org](http://www.zerotothree.org)

Zero to Three is a national organization that supports the health and well-being of infants and toddlers by informing, educating, and supporting the adults who influence their lives. Aimed at both parents and professionals, this site provides resources, public policy papers, parenting tips, and publications—all related to infants and toddlers.

## **Cultural Competency Resources**

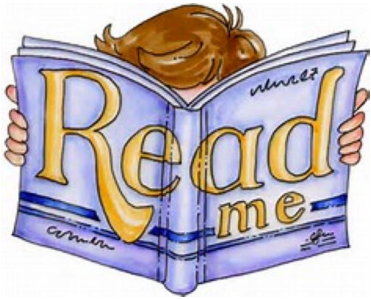
### **Center for Effective Collaboration & Practice**

<http://cecp.air.org/cultural/default.htm>

It is the mission of the Center for Effective Collaboration and Practice to foster the development and the adjustment of children with or at risk of developing serious emotional

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# Getting Started Resource Links

## State of Arizona CASA (Continued)

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disturbance. The center's website contains a section on cultural competence.

### **Class Matters**

[www.classmatters.org](http://www.classmatters.org)

This website is a great resource for understanding class values and how class influences how people view the world.

### ***Flipping the Script: White Privilege & Community Building***

[www.capd.org/pubfiles/pub-2005-01-01.pdf](http://www.capd.org/pubfiles/pub-2005-01-01.pdf)

The authors of this monograph intend it to "help those involved in improving communities to work in more equitable and thoughtful partnerships with community residents and other stakeholders, with special attention to issues of privilege, oppression, racism and power as they play out in this work."

### ***A Practice Guide for Working with African American Families in the Child Welfare System***

<http://edocs.dhs.state.mn.us/lfsrserver/Legacy/DHS-4702-ENG>

Although it is aimed at caseworkers, this article is instructive for CASA/GAL volunteers as they seek to employ a culturally competent, strengths-based approach to working with African American families.

### **NativeWeb**

[www.nativeweb.org/resources](http://www.nativeweb.org/resources)

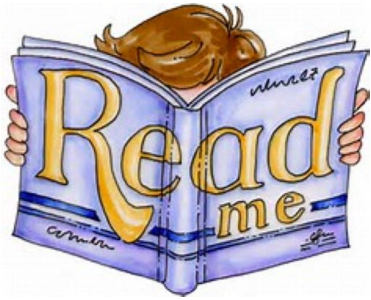
This site contains over 3,000 links to various aspects of Native American culture and history.

### **Asian-Nation**

[www.asian-nation.org](http://www.asian-nation.org)

This site contains multiple resources concerning Asian history, culture, immigration, and contemporary issues in America.

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# Getting Started Resource Links

## State of Arizona CASA (Continued)

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### Deaf Linx

[www.deaflinx.com](http://www.deaflinx.com)

This site provides an extensive list of links to sites about deaf culture, deaf history, deaf businesses, and other general resources for those with hearing loss or those who would like to learn about deaf culture.

### Center for Immigration Studies

[www.cis.org](http://www.cis.org)

An excellent resource for many current immigrant issues, this site contains informative articles explaining important topics that arise in US immigration and a forum for asking questions about immigration.

### Association of Multi-Ethnic Americans (AMEA)

[www.ameasite.org](http://www.ameasite.org)

AMEA is an international association of organizations dedicated to advocacy, education, and collaboration on behalf of the multiethnic, multiracial, and trans-racial adoption community.

### Disability: Connecting the Disability Community to Information and Opportunities

[www.disability.gov](http://www.disability.gov)

This site connects people with current information related to a variety of topics.

<http://www.azcourts.gov/CASA>

Check out your county's website using "Contact a Program" icon.

[www.casaforchildren.org](http://www.casaforchildren.org)

National CASA

This concludes "Getting Started Resource Links".

# CASA Family Album



Ethan and Caitlin  
Dodge have a great  
time at  
Apple Annie's!



Continued on next page~



# CASA Family Album



Naelani and Itxel  
Borbon ready for  
some Halloween fun  
and excitement!



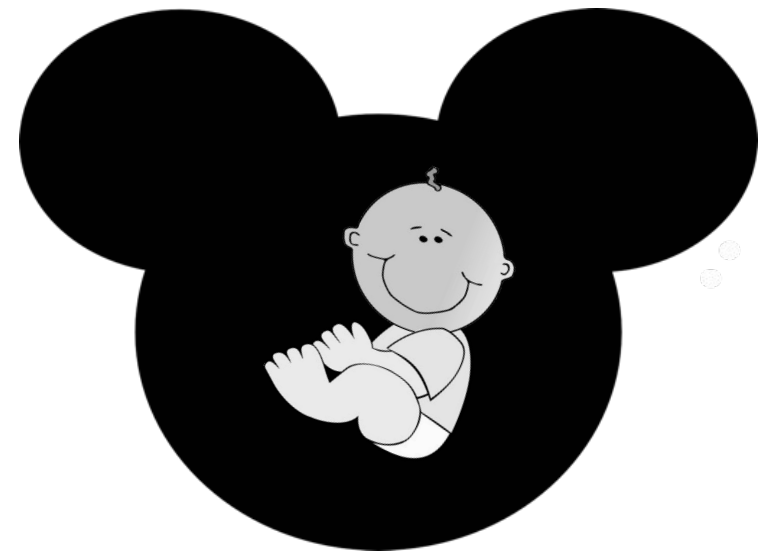
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# CASA Family Album



From Deb Scott:

Here's our little guy Nolan...  
holding his Mama's hand,  
enjoying these last few weeks  
of being the only child!



Continued on next page~



# Happy Halloween



Debra DeRosa, Just Kids, Inc



Jan and Bud Dragoo, Cochise County CASA Volunteers

Continued on next page~



Cochise County Sheriff Mark Dannels



Cochise County CASA Volunteer Lin Wright





"Young Sherlock" Buono



Snap Chat Puppy and Sherlock  
AKA Sharon and Mark Buono



LuRue Troyer, Cochise County  
CASA Volunteer